

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claims 1-6 (Canceled).

Claim 7 (New): A honeycomb structural body comprising:

a ceramic block made by arranging a plurality of through-holes side by side in a longitudinal direction through partition walls and sealing either one end portions of the through-holes,

wherein the ceramic block is formed with a composite material comprising ceramic particles and amorphous silicon.

Claim 8 (New): A honeycomb structural body according to claim 7, wherein the ceramic block is made by bonding a plurality of prismatic ceramic members each having a plurality of through-holes arranged side by side in the longitudinal direction through partition walls with sealing material layers.

Claim 9 (New): A honeycomb structural body according to claim 7, wherein a plurality of through-holes are plugged with a plugging material at one end portion of the ceramic block and through-holes not plugged with the plugging material are plugged with a plugging material at the other end portion thereof.

Claim 10 (New): A honeycomb structural body according to claim 7, wherein the composite member is a porous ceramics formed by bonding ceramic particles through amorphous silicon.

Claim 11 (New): A honeycomb structural body according to claim 7, wherein the ceramic particle is silicon carbide.

Claim 12 (New): A honeycomb structural body according to claim 7, wherein the amorphous silicon has a half-width value of Si peak ($2\theta = \text{about } 28^\circ$) of an X-ray diffraction of not less than 1.0° .